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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

IMPORT OF TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF POLITICAL OFFICER

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 19, Oct 85 (signed to press 19 Sept 85) pp 23-29

[Article by Lt Gen V. Serebryakov, chief of the Personnel Directorate of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: "On the Competence of the Political Worker"]

[Text] At the contemporary stage the army political worker's competence, his ability to fulfill his duty and his service obligations in a professional manner, is becoming increasingly important in the organic unity of good political and moral qualities and efficiency which are a part of his makeup. Lenin's principle that "...in order to direct, one must be competent, have a complete and precise understanding of all the production conditions, understand the production technology at its contemporary level and have a certain scientific education" is highly important today.

Ideologically mature fightingmen, courageous and skillful and prepared to come to the homeland's defense at any time can be successfully developed only on the basis of a profound knowledge and understanding of party policy and of the tasks set by it in the area of national defense, and the ability to analyze the international situation, the development of military affairs and the processes occurring in the military collectives.

Those in charge need a high level of professionalism, a good knowledge of things and the most progressive forms and methods as never before, today, when the party has assigned us the task of using the advantages of socialism to accelerate the nation's economic and social development, to raise the level of party supervision in all areas of the building of communism and to reform the work style. "Mere execution is no longer enough, although there is not always enough even of that," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev stated in his report at the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. "Such performance qualities as competence, a feeling for innovation, initiative, boldness, a willingness to accept responsibility, the ability to assign a task and see that it is carried out and the capacity not to lose sight of the political significance of management are becoming more and more important. I would add to this a desire to learn how to work."

Competence is a multifaceted concept. Briefly stated, it means extensive cognition, complete knowledgeability and authoritativeness in a specific field.

With respect to the political worker's competence, we mean primarily his mastery of Marxist-Leninist theory, its systematic and continuous study, a thorough understanding of the laws governing the development of the society and the army, and the ability to apply revolutionary theory in practical matters. This is the foundation of competence, its basis. Naturally, the professional preparedness of a political worker also requires a thorough grasp of the tenets and conclusions contained in party and government documents and a knowledge of the theory and praxis of party development in the Armed Forces, its specific features and the requirements contained in the CPSU Charter. It also requires, of course, that the political leader have a thorough understanding of the substance, forms and methods of party-political work and the state of affairs in the military collectives, that he be able to select the right approach to people and skillfully resolve pressing problems.

A good knowledge of military affairs, the nature of modern combat and the latest methods of employing the weapons and equipment, and the ability to use political influence to provide the commanders with effective assistance in the preparation of highly skilled specialists and in the accomplishment of all the tasks performed in the day-to-day training and indoctrinational process, as well as in exercises, on flights, on alert duty and on naval cruises, are a very important feature of the political worker's competence. There will be no authority behind the words of a political worker who utters appeals but cannot himself fire accurately, drive a tank or armored personnel carrier confidently, stand watch at sea or take over the commander's duties if necessary.

Competence makes it possible to perform effective party-political work, unite the personnel round the CPSU, persistently and undeviatingly fulfill the party's requirements for maintaining the Armed Forces at a high level of vigilance and constant combat readiness. It helps in actually organizing the fulfillment of the demand set forth by the USSR Minister of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy that we further improve the ideological and political indoctrination of the personnel, focusing the main attention on the study and propagation of Marxist-Leninist theory, V.I. Lenin's ideological and theoretical legacy, the historical experience of the Communist Party and current questions pertaining to the CPSU's foreign and domestic policy.

Along with the commanders, political workers in the army and navy actively develop in every Soviet fightingman precisely defined class positions and a profound conviction of the correctness of our cause, and instill in them love for the homeland, hatred for its enemies, a high level of vigilance and a constant readiness to come to the defense of socialism's gains. In this matter we cannot count only on the force of appeals or limit ourselves to issuing instructions. The practical work is more and more persistently demanding carefully conceived organizational work, which is inconceivable without profound specialized and military knowledge, without an understanding of the specific fine points of training and indoctrinating the personnel.

In the situation of sharply intensified ideological struggle, the political worker must be able to expose the intrigues of our ideological enemies convincingly and aggressively, have an absolute mastery of the forms and methods of counterpropaganda work, correctly define its directions, promptly detect

new trends in this area and react to them effectively. Profound theoretical knowledge in the area of counterpropaganda, combined with effective practical measures--this is what is demanded of the political worker today.

The times urgently demand that the political workers constantly raise their general cultural level, have a clear understanding of achievements in science, literature and art, and be skilled speakers. In order to achieve this, one must read a great deal and be informed with respect to all of these areas, because every talk and lecture by a political worker should be an example of extensive erudition, evoke in people an interest in the educator's personality and motivate them to expand the range of their interests and knowledge.

The party attaches particular importance to the efficiency of political workers, to the solid linkage of their words and deeds, to their being able to achieve what has been planned and see an undertaking through to the end. And efficiency, of course, is impossible without competence, without a knowledge of all aspects of the work.

Many truly competent political workers, who know "their subject" and human science down to the fine points, have developed in the army and navy units and subunits. Colonel A. Aleksandrov has confidently directed the political section of one of the formations for several years. He is distinguished by his profound military and political knowledge, by his organizational abilities and his understanding of the essence of problems brought forth by life in the training and indoctrination of the fightingmen. It is precisely his competence which has gained him a high level of prestige in the formation and helped him to put his own stamp on the work. The officer works a great deal to perfect his military knowledge and thoroughly studies the Marxist-Leninist ideological and theoretical legacy, party and government decisions. He is always informed about how the combat and the political training plans are being fulfilled, keeps close track of the political and moral state of the personnel in the units and subunits and of the work style of commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations, and personally works a great deal with the personnel. His personal contribution to the fact that the formation is an outstanding one is clearly apparent. Comrade Aleksandrov received an early promotion in rank. This was in acknowledgement of his vigorous efforts to implement the party policy.

At a conference of leading personnel of army and navy political organs, held on 28 August of this year, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of Defense, directed special attention to the importance of the political worker's prestige, which is earned not by the position he holds but through tireless, highly skillful work in the indoctrination of the servicemen. A thorough knowledge of one's job, the ability to correctly determine the main tasks and carry them out well, irreproachable moral purity, party principle and selflessness in the work--these are all important components of a political worker's authority.

It is inconceivable that a political worker could perform successfully without a thorough knowledge of the state of affairs in the units and subunits, without vital contact with the aktiv and with all of the personnel. His place is

mainly in the midst of the people, at the range, at the tank training area, the airfield, the combat vehicle pool, on alert duty, in the barracks, in the party and Komsomol organizations.

In some cases one cannot get to the bottom of a problem immediately, at a single sitting, so to speak. Time and painstaking work are required in order to ultimately ascertain the causes of a breakdown in the mechanism for exerting party influence on the combat training and the strengthening of discipline. When all of the cause-and-effect connections have been studied, however, when a competent analysis has been made of the situation, it then becomes clear what has to be changed in the work style of the commander, the political worker, the party and Komsomol organizations, and it becomes clear how best to accomplish the current tasks.

With respect to the work style of the political section chief and the deputy commander for political affairs, the fact should be stressed that success will not be achieved without a mastery of the science of directing the collective and public opinion, without the ability to see the dialectical connection between individual facts and events. The political workers are facing increasingly complex problems today. And to trust in intuition alone is to operate to a significant degree by guess-work, in the old way. Unfortunately, that still occurs. A superior worker will visit a unit, let us say, issue a large number of instructions on the basis of first, superficial impressions and then depart. Nothing actually changes. This political worker has not gotten to the roots of the matter, not looked into relations among the servicemen, not revealed reserves for intensifying the party-political work. And real help--an influential word, a competent recommendation--was expected of him.

When competence is lacking, there is no initiative, no creative enthusiasm, because any desire to do something innovatively and better turns into futile efforts without a basis of profound theoretical knowledge and good practical ability. We know that more is achieved by the individual who is not only able to analyze a situation but can also skillfully find the correct way to resolve pressing problems. But what sometimes still occurs in reality? Some political workers will understand the situation which has developed in a military collective, but instead of finding the main element and working for results, they will act with hesitancy and flounder in endless routine details. In this case they do not affect the situation, but events dominate them, prevent them from stopping, looking around and spotting errors in order to correct them without fail.

A political worker does not become competent immediately. He has to live, to serve and to learn, of course, in order for that valuable quality, a professional understanding of matters and skill, finally to mature. It is developed through painstaking, hard work, by a desire to keep in step with life and not come to a halt in one's development. Otherwise, failure is inevitable, which means that the practical authority will not be great, service prospects will not be what one would have liked, and there are sometimes even more serious difficulties. I shall cite an example.

Substantial defects--having a poor knowledge of the life of the subunit collectives and working without a well conceived system--were pointed out to Lieutenant Colonel V. Smolskiy, a political worker, more than once. It was also pointed out to him that he had stopped learning and was functioning with his old store of knowledge. That was not all: the officer was consulting people less and less frequently, did not always listen to their opinion and had begun making wrong decisions. He finally found himself incapable of performing the job. The political worker paid a high price for his professional apathy, for halting his theoretical and practical development. The individual began to believe too soon that he had achieved the pinnacle, that he had the right "to take a rest." That pinnacle, competence, always lies ahead, however, and one has to strive for it one's entire life. I want to believe that Lieutenant Colonel Smolskiy will derive the proper conclusions from what he has learned, that good things will still be said of him more than once.

The acquisition of competence is unquestionably primarily the concern of the political worker himself. The support of more experienced comrades also plays an important role, however. One of the main reserves for raising the level of competence of the political workers lies in the day-to-day, practical transfer of know-how from senior workers to the young. No textbook, even the best, can take the place of this kind of vital, practical training. Providing those workers with skill in correctly approaching people and in their political and military indoctrination involves not only giving advice but also providing specific, real assistance.

A sort of tutorship, an old, good and useful tradition, exists among political workers of the army and navy. It is like a life-giving channel, through which the older generation passes on its valuable experience to the younger, a means of raising the level of competence of the young political workers.

Lieutenant Colonel V. Kucherov, a political worker in one of the units of the Moscow Air Defense District, loves to involve himself, as they say, with his young comrades in the profession, to teach them everything he himself has learned during his many years in the army. He therefore did not ignore the situation when Captain V. Shagayev, a deputy battalion commander for political affairs, encountered difficulties and did not know how to cope with them. He took on several different projects but did not complete them and did not always properly investigate the factors hampering the strengthening of discipline. Nor were his talks to the fightingmen successful. Kucherov began observing Shagayev. He taught the latter tactfully and unobtrusively how to correctly determine what was most important in the work, to sense the mood in the collective and to consider possible actions by subordinates inclined to violate discipline. He taught Shagayev to delve deeply into questions pertaining to the combat and political training of the personnel and when he addressed the personnel, to speak more about what was of concern to them--about their affairs and about their lives.

As time passed, the captain acquired experience and knowledge from his senior comrade. The party-political work he performed in the subunits began to produce more significant results. His influence on the combat training of the

personnel became more perceptible. The political worker himself mastered the weapons in the unit and became a highly rated specialist, which helped to reinforce his authority.

The political organs have a great role with respect to enhancing the competence of political workers at the regimental, battalion and company levels. They use many tested forms and methods. They study the work style of political workers in the units and subunits, give them assistance and arrange for theoretical and methodological training for them. Well prepared assemblies and conferences and the rendering of accounts and reports also help to increase competence. The summarization and dissemination of progressive experience in party-political work and political briefings for the political workers are also of considerable benefit. The important thing is for all of these types of training and indoctrination to produce results. But this is only possible when the political organs have an accurate knowledge of the strong and weak points of the political workers and see specifically where they lack knowledge and experience. In order for the political worker to improve his professional training on a daily basis, it is necessary to assign him specific tasks and see that they are carried out. Only preciseness in the assignment of tasks, backed up with practical assistance and strict monitoring, produces results.

Given all of this, however, a highly developed sense of responsibility on the part of the political worker for the independent improvement of his professional preparation is still absolutely essential. The young deputy company commander for political affairs, the political organ chief with extensive service behind him, the secretary of the party committee and the propagandists all equally need a stable habit of systematically working to broaden their political and military perspective, of studying the situation in the collectives and analyzing the work of the party and Komsomol organizations. Regular classes according to an individual plan and the acquisition of experience in the actual work process constitute the most reliable way to acquire competence.

The officer training has an important place in the matter of improving the professional military knowledge and skills of the political workers. Unfortunately, however, the classes conducted with political workers during the hours of officer training are still frequently ineffective and do not provide adequate information. The officer training for political workers is sometimes conducted systematically, but their competence with respect to studying issues leaves something to be desired. This is also due to the fact that an individual approach is not taken to the students in the classes. If a specific officer is "weak" in technical training, for example, the main attention should be given precisely to this. Every class should be a new level leading to the pinnacle of competence and not a matter of merely marking time.

It should be mentioned that the personnel agencies are required to take an active part in the training and indoctrination of political workers. They are expected to have objective information on candidates for advancement and help in every way to improve the professional competence of the political workers.

The personnel agencies are trying to look more and more actively into the life of the troops in order to assess the officers not just on the basis of certification information and statements from chiefs, but also through personal

observations and conclusions. The party demands that we persistently improve the selection, the placement, training and indoctrination of the cadres, giving special attention to their political qualities, the extent to which they know the job, their organizational abilities, their moral makeup, the initiative they demonstrate in the work and their ability to see promising things, sense innovation and introduce it in the praxis. The increased complexity of the missions performed by the troops today demands increased responsibility on the part of political workers, personnel agencies and party organizations for the strict observance of these Leninist principles for working with the cadres. Deviating from them results in incorrect appointments and in serious detriment.

Colonel Ye. Marshalkin was recently appointed to the post of chief of the political section of the military commissariat in the Ural Military District, for example. He was described at his previous station as an officer capable of organizing effective party-political work. It soon became apparent, however, that the good qualities were cancelled out by a fondness for alcohol. The error had to be corrected, and those to blame for Marshalkin's unobjective reference and undeserved advancement had to be brought to account.

We still have cases in which a worthy, truly competent comrade and hard worker remains in the background, while one who only simulates competence moves up to the next level in the service. To prevent errors, we need to carefully study the level of professional training of the officers-and-political workers, to see their actual performance. It is important not to overlook the deputy level. There have been cases in which certain deputy chiefs of political organs have been appointed to independent work, only to flounder and not cope with the job. Among other things, this occurs because we frequently give maximum attention to the heads of the political organs and forget to consider their deputies systematically and thoroughly. It also occurs because we sometimes fail to see that there is a person lacking initiative and independence "sitting it out" in the role of deputy commander behind the chief, who is in the position of prominence. Unfortunately, the level of his competence is assessed only when he has his coming-out, as they say.

Competence is one of those qualities which is not developed by sitting in an office. It requires careful study of army life and the moral climate in the collectives, and constant communication with the people. I have frequently noticed that as long as the political worker's position keeps him near the barracks, he works a great deal right in the subunits, knows everyone, and everyone knows him. When certain comrades are promoted to a higher position, however, it is as though they become different people. They stop looking beyond the office walls, "develop a fondness" for a soft chair and become immersed in a flood of paper work. Such a leader will not promptly detect new feelings in the subunit, not sense someone's worries, not provide help and not correct things.

In its demands with respect to reorganizing the work of our cadres, the party places important emphasis on eliminating the "armchair" work style. This applies to every Communist in charge--including the political worker, of course. One can only know army life when one is in the thick of that life. The political worker should not be isolated from real, vital participation in the indoctrinational and organizational work by all sorts of accounts and reports.

The ability of a political worker to take an efficient approach to the performance of his duties and to work productively depends in great part upon his knowledge of life in the subunits and of the capabilities and specific features of the party and Komsomol organizations. Correct decisions cannot be made nor the correct indoctrinational and organizational steps selected without this. It is very important to be able to select and use information from below--from the commanders and political workers in the subunits, the party and Komsomol activists and all of the servicemen. The study of information received by the political worker at party and Komsomol meetings, at conferences, in talks with the personnel and during visits by them on personal matters is an irreplaceable means of enriching one's knowledge of the true situation and a reliable guideline for making correct decisions.

Colonel V. Sumarokov, chief of a division political section, for example, spends most of his working hours in the units and subunits. He thoroughly studies the combat and political training, the state of the party-political work and the daily life of the fightingmen, and addresses them. The officer manages to visit the training center and the barracks, to attend a party meeting, to take a look at the officers' dormitory and the enlisted men's mess hall, the library and the club, and to have a substantive talk with the men. Some of the immediate commanders know less than Sumarokov about the feelings of their subordinates. The ability to keep informed, to share the concerns of the people and to detect problems which need to be resolved--all of this gives the political worker deserved authority and helps him to work productively.

Competence helps to detect innovative and progressive things in the training and indoctrination of the personnel, to have not only a good knowledge of the general requirements, but also to better see how the achievement of the objectives which have been set can be accelerated, to appreciate the creativity of the men and to support useful initiatives on their part. Without this, a political worker is like an incompetent geologist who stands over deposits of valuable minerals but does not notice them and does not promote their use. Let us say that a subunit party organization actively contributes to the fact that the military collective has consistently good results in the combat and political training and good discipline. Once again, it is important to figure out how this has been achieved and how the work of the given party organization differs fundamentally from that of others. It is not easy to answer these questions. They must be answered, however. We cannot count on success without this. We need to constantly and competently analyze the state of the party-political work in the subunits and units and the extent to which it influences all aspects of the life and training of the personnel, and we need precise control which produces results.

Everywhere in the army and navy today, the political workers, together with the commanders, are mobilizing the fightingmen to provide a fitting reception for the 27th CPSU Congress, to achieve new successes in the combat and political training. An irreproachable knowledge of their job, solid contact with people, well-based indoctrinational and organizational decisions are making it possible for the political workers to lead the fightingmen, to actively influence their minds and to strive to see that they perform the tasks involved in protecting the Soviet people's peaceful creative labor with a great sense of responsibility.

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

IMPERIALIST AGGRESSIVENESS, PARTY CONCERN FOR EQUIPPING FORCES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 19, Oct 85 (signed to press 19 Sept 85) pp 78-84

[Article: "A High Level of Vigilance and Constant Combat Readiness--The Best Gift for the 27th CPSU Congress"]

[Text] With this issue of the magazine we begin publishing articles to assist instructors of political study groups for soldiers, seamen, NCOs and petty officers in accordance with the training plans for 1986. In the forthcoming training year articles will also be published on individual subjects for political classes for students in training subunits.

These articles will be accompanied whenever possible with drawings, diagrams and tables, as well as sets of figures and other reference material.

The political training program for the new training year begins with this subject. The purpose of studying it is to help the soldiers and seamen gain a more thorough understanding of their tasks with respect to enhancing vigilance and combat readiness in response to imperialism's stepped-up aggressiveness and the attempt by reactionary NATO forces led by the United States of America to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the other socialist commonwealth nations. It is important for the class to promote the further development of a patriotic sense of personal responsibility in the fighting-men for providing the socialist homeland with a reliable defense and to mobilize them to greet the 27th Congress of the Communist Party in a worthy manner.

A total of 6 hours is allocated for the study of this subject. It is recommended that the time be broken down in the following manner: 2 hours for narration, 2 for independent preparation and 2 for discussion.

Considering the importance of the subject, it would be useful for leading personnel of formations, units and ships and the best prepared officers from the propaganda aktiv to take a direct part in conducting the class.

It is recommended that the following topics be covered in the narration:

1) The CPSU on Imperialism's Stepped-Up Aggressiveness at the Contemporary Stage and the Need to Further Strengthen the Nation's Defense Capability and the Protection of Socialism's Gains; 2) The Concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet State for Outfitting the Armed Forces of the USSR with Modern Weapons and Combat Equipment, and Their All-Around Improvement; 3) The Tasks of the Personnel With Respect to Providing a Fitting Reception for the 27th CPSU Congress, Enhancing Vigilance and Combat Readiness.

A brief introduction should mention the fact that all of the Soviet people are now working selflessly in an atmosphere of enormous enthusiasm generated by preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress. Workers, the kolkhoz peasantry and the Soviet intelligentsia are attempting to conclude the 11th Five-Year Plan in the best possible manner.

Fightingmen of the army and navy, along with all the Soviet people, fervently and unanimously support the wise foreign and domestic policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet State, which is aimed at implementing the peace-loving Leninist foreign policy course and cutting off imperialism's aggressive forces.

"We are aware of the scope of the military threat," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated at a formal meeting dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's Victory in the Great Patriotic War, "and recognize our responsibility for the fate of peace, and we shall not permit the strategic military parity between the USSR and the USA, between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO, to be destroyed. We shall continue adhering to this policy, because we have firmly grasped once and for all what the past has taught us."

1. The CPSU on Imperialism's Stepped-Up Aggression at the Contemporary Stage and the Need to Further Strengthen the Nation's Defense Capability and the Protection of Socialism's Gains

Coverage of the first topic should begin with an explanation of the premise of Marxist-Leninist doctrine that imperialism has been and remains a constant source of military danger in the world. "Imperialism--i.e., monopolistic capitalism--" V.I. Lenin pointed out, "which has finally matured only in the 20th Century, is distinguished in its basic economic features by the least love of peace and freedom and by the greatest and most universal development of its military." ("Poln. sobr. soch." [Complete Collected Works], Vol 37, p 248). In the article "On the 4th Anniversary of the October Revolution," written in October 1921, V.I. Lenin underscored the fact that the international policy of financial capital "inevitably generates new imperialist wars, as well as unheard-of intensification of national oppression, plundering, robbery and the stifling of weak, backward and small nationalities by a handful of 'advanced' powers...." ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol. 44, p 148).

With the victory of Great October and the emergence of the world's first state of workers and peasants, the Soviet Republic, and the subsequent founding of the world socialist system, a result of the defeat of fascist Germany and militaristic Japan, there arose and grew strong a real force capable of

actively countering the imperialist policy of unleashing wars and armed conflicts. The socialist world conducts a consistent and persistent struggle against unjust wars, against the arms race and the exacerbation of international tensions.

Imperialism has now lost its ability to control the fate of mankind. Its more reactionary circles, however, the proponents of all sorts of "limited" and prolonged nuclear wars, still have considerable strength and pose with their aggressive policy a danger which freedom-loving and peace-loving peoples must not underestimate. Adventurism and a readiness to gamble with the vital interests of mankind for the sake of their narrow mercenary objectives--this is what manifests itself particularly clearly in the actions of those circles, and primarily in the policy of the most aggressive forces in the USA and other nations in the NATO bloc.

It was pointed out at the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee that primarily ruling circles of the United States of America bear responsibility for the situation which has developed. They continue to be the initiators of the arms race and to sabotage disarmament. More and more new types of weapons of mass destruction are being developed at their initiative. They are attempting to extend the arms race to space. Hundreds of American bases scattered over the planet are also destabilizing the situation. The USA openly claims the "right" to interfere anywhere and everywhere, ignoring and frequently, openly flouting, the interests of other nations and peoples, the traditions of international relations, existing treaties and agreements.

This policy has been particularly provocative since the beginning of the 80's, following the change of administrations in the White House. Here are just a few facts from the chronicle of military preparations carried out by the Reagan Administrations. In 1981 it was decided to begin full-scale production of the neutron bomb, and a new, aggressive strategic program was adopted with a cost of more than 100 billion dollars. This program called for the production of 100 MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, 100 B-1 strategic bombers and more than 3,000 cruise missiles, and the construction of Ohio-class nuclear-powered submarines, which are a part of the Trident system. They are armed with missiles, each of which is equal in power to 300 of the atomic bombs dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima in August 1945. A "chemical rearmament" program was adopted in 1982, which calls for production of the latest binary ammunition. In 1983 the decision was made to develop a so-called antimissile system in outer space using the latest achievements of science and technology, including laser weapons, to develop the Midgetman mobile intercontinental missile, and so forth. In 1984 Pershing II and cruise missiles, which are first-strike weapons, were deployed in Western Europe. In 1985 there was a step-up in efforts to implement the Star Wars program, which is labeled the Strategic Defense Initiative for public opinion.

Military outlays are rapidly increasing. The USA has spent more than 2 trillion dollars, a truly astronomical amount, during the first three and a half postwar decades. Even greater funds are now being allocated to please the military-industrial complex, however. In the current fiscal year alone the Pentagon's budget is more than 302 billion dollars.

Bonn is emulating its oversea NATO partner with a zeal worthy of better application. The Bundeswehr is being systematically rearmed--and at a rapid pace. The FRG's War Department plans to spend at least 150 billion marks just for the acquisition of new weapons and combat equipment between this year and 1987. The West German armed forces are to receive 4,500 armored personnel carriers, 18 submarines, 6 frigates, etc. But this is only part of the plan for rearming the Bundeswehr. The FRG's War Department is requesting 300 billion marks for the total modernization of its armed forces, and it has the government's complete support.

The more reactionary circles of other NATO states are also obediently following in the wake of the foreign policy of the USA, which dreams of world domination, launching a fierce attack against detente and against the policy of peaceful coexistence by nations with different social systems.

Japan is increasingly being called NATO's Far East flank. Encouraged by extremist forces in the USA, militaristic reactionary circles there are increasingly coming out into the open. Official Tokyo is more and more actively taking part in the implementation of Washington's aggressive policy. This is borne out by a number of facts. For example, the USA and Japan have an agreement on joint combat operations by the armed forces of the two nations in "emergencies." Even the Japanese press has described this document as "a program for drawing the nation into war." There are around 120 American military bases and installations in Japan. The nation is intensively associating itself with the nuclear strategy. A number of its ports have been turned into anchorage sites for American submarines equipped with nuclear missiles. American F-16 aircraft capable of delivering nuclear strikes thousands of kilometers from their base have been deployed at Misawa Air Base since April of this year. Incidentally, this is on the same island as the city of Tokyo, Japan's capital.

In recent years world reaction has particularly stepped up its coordinated subversive work against the socialist nations, primarily the Soviet Union. During a period with no open military confrontation, our class enemies are counting mainly on various kinds of ideological diversion, on the unleashing of a "psychological war" unprecedented in scope and frenzy. Intelligence agencies and other secret services of the capitalist states and the mass media supported by them serve as the assault force in these actions.

U.S. imperialists together with their NATO partners have turned to absolute brigandage on the airways in an attempt to organize acts of ideological sabotage against the USSR and the other socialist commonwealth nations. They are intensifying the activities of their subversive radio centers for this purpose. Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe (RL-RFE) radio stations, which are supported by the CIA, alone are broadcasting a total of more than 1,000 hours each week in more than 20 languages of peoples of the European socialist nations and the USSR. While until relatively recently the budget for the RL-RFE was 10 million dollars, it now exceeds 100 million. Vigorous efforts are being undertaken to expand the capabilities of Voice of America for radio subversion. It was allocated 281 million dollars for this purpose for the 1984/85 fiscal year alone, and it is planned to allocate another billion

dollars just for technical modernization for the forthcoming five-year period. These figures are graphic evidence of attempts to further intensify the flow onto the airways of propaganda poisoning the minds of people..

The radio station Deutsche Welle and other bourgeois radio voices receive constant financial infusions.

By stepping up their efforts to "soften up" and "impair" socialism's ideological foundations, its class enemies are attempting to discredit the Soviet state and social system and to exert a negative influence upon broad groups of the population. They are aiming particularly at the youth, who lack experience in life. In their broadcasts the NATO "radio voices" attempt to create the impression that the main concern of Western youth is not the search for work, but a search for new types of entertainment and an attempt "to kill" time with as much chic as possible. The apologists for the bourgeois way of life alternate with propaganda about this pseudo-standard behavior, seasoned with a generous portion of "mass culture," whisperings through the microphones to the effect that the youth have a spirit of "rebellion and protest" regardless of whether there are reasons for this.

Along with acts of ideological sabotage aimed at weakening the ideological and political unity of the Soviet society and its unity round the Lenin Communist Party, the inspirers of the "cold war" also make active use of imperialist intelligence agents for this purpose. According to available information, the U.S. secret services have more than 200,000 workers. In addition to conducting acts of sabotage and terrorism, and political black-mail, it is the task of these services to gather information on the state of affairs inside our nation, on relations among peoples of the USSR and on the work of Soviet agencies on an extremely broad range of matters. This information is then subjected to biased processing at certain "Sovietology" institutes (there are more than 100 in the USA alone) and converted into the raw material of slander for conducting subversive acts of ideological sabotage.

Despite the enormous outlays, all attempts by the organizers of subversive activities against our nation are shattered by the inviolable unity of the Soviet people and their solidarity round the Communist Party, by the friendship of peoples, the patriotism and internationalism of the Soviet people, their preparedness to defend their homeland and the gains of socialism, and their vigilance. They provide state security agencies with active assistance in thwarting attempts by enemy intelligence services to conduct subversive work in our nation. A number of foreign intelligence agents have been exposed as spies or subversive agents in recent years, for example. These include Americans Thomas, Augustenborg, Rosenberg, Muller, Osborn, Shorer, Kelly, Crockett and Peterson.

Despite their failures, the organizers of subversive activities against socialism are not giving up their efforts. In this situation it is essential to continue assessing events and occurrences in the world from a standpoint of principle, from a class position. The affirmation of revolutionary ideals and socialist standards of life, persistent labor for the sake of our socialist

homeland and the highest level of vigilance are the best counteraction for the subversive acts of the imperialists.

When concluding the first topic, it is beneficial to stress the fact that the exacerbation of world tensions through the fault of imperialism's reactionary forces demands that all fightingmen double and triple their efforts to enhance the vigilance and combat readiness of the units and ships and the Armed Forces of the USSR as a whole. In the complex international situation, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR Minister of Defense, said at a Komsomol conference of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District, the Communist Party and its Central Committee demand that the Armed Forces and every fightingman work tirelessly to enhance political and military vigilance and be in a constant state of readiness to defend the great gains of socialism.

2. The Concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet State for Outfitting the Armed Forces of the USSR With Modern Weapons and Combat Equipment and for Their All-Around Improvement

Moving on to the second topic, it must be pointed out that our party, its Lenin Central Committee and the Soviet Government, in view of the increased danger of war, are engaged in a determined struggle for peace, a struggle to control the arms race. Here are just a few facts. A unilateral commitment by the Soviet Union not to be the first to employ nuclear weapons has been in effect since 1982, and a commitment not to place antisatellite weapons into space, since 1983. The USSR has proposed to the USA that a moratorium be established on the development of space weapons and that strategic nuclear arsenals be frozen for the entire period of the Geneva Talks. On 6 August 1985 the Soviet Union proposed that all nuclear explosions be completely halted. The American Administration did not respond to one of these initiatives with a single gesture of goodwill. This is why, while conducting a peace-loving Leninist foreign policy course, our party and state never for a moment forget about the need for material guarantees against imperialist aggression or about the strengthening of the socialist homeland's defense capability in the face of the military threat from international imperialism. "We shall continue not to spare our efforts," it was stated at the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "to see that the Armed Forces of the USSR have everything necessary to reliably defend our homeland and its allies, that no one can catch us unaware."

The Communist Party gives constant attention to all aspects of the life and work of the Soviet Armed Forces. It oversees the military organizational development and directs the development of Soviet military science and military art, the training and indoctrination of cadres, and the development of international ties with the armies of fraternal nations in the socialist commonwealth.

It should be noted that the Soviet Armed Forces perform their duty of protecting the gains of socialism in single formation with the armies of other socialist nations. The Warsaw Pact Organization serves as a reliable tool for preventing a nuclear war and strengthening international security. The aggressive aspirations of the imperialist states and the increase in military preparations

by the NATO bloc make it essential for us to take all possible steps to further strengthen the defense alliance. The unanimous decision by the socialist commonwealth nations in April of this year to extend the Warsaw Pact was a fitting response to the belligerent plans of the West.

As the party carries out the planned development of the army and navy, it gives prime attention to those forces and means which most fully ensure the strength of Armed Forces in the contemporary situation.

The Strategic Rocket Forces, which are in a constant state of combat readiness, have enormous fighting capabilities. They are outfitted with missiles of practically unlimited range and great target striking accuracy. These forces are capable of conducting combat operations in any season and at any time of day, regardless of weather conditions. They have become the foundation for the fighting strength of our Armed Forces.

At the same time, the party and government, considering the fact that the efforts of all services of the Armed Forces and branches of troops will be essential for total victory in a modern war, demonstrate constant concern for their balanced development and improvement.

The Ground Forces are the largest service of the Armed Forces with respect to numerical strength and fighting strength. Today they have nuclear missiles, modern tanks and infantry combat vehicles, and diverse artillery systems--in short, everything necessary for the successful performance of their missions.

The combat capabilities of the Air Defense Forces have been greatly increased. They are capable of combatting an air enemy at various altitudes and in a situation of powerful interference. The tactical and technical features of our anti-aircraft missile systems, fighter aviation and radar stations provide for the prompt detection, reliable tracking and destruction of all air targets.

Profound qualitative changes and reforms have occurred in the Air Forces in recent years. The missile-carrying aircraft have become real mobile launching sites for air-to-air and air-to-ground missiles. Many types of Soviet aircraft have no equals in the world with respect to altitude, speed and flight range. Vertical-take-off, variable-geometry-wing aircraft have been developed. Outstanding successes have been achieved in Soviet helicopter construction.

As a result of the purposeful work of the Communist Party and the hard work of Soviet scientists, of all the Soviet people, our Navy has become an ocean-going, nuclear-missile-carrying navy. Today it is an important factor for staving off or checking imperialism's aggressive ambitions on the expanses of the World Ocean.

The role and the capabilities of the airborne troops have grown. Military communications have become more reliable and stable. The outfitting of the staffs with electronic computers and the creation of computer centers have considerably accelerated information processing in the control echelons, made it possible to adopt well-based, optimal decisions and inform those responsible

for fulfilling them, with great promptness and efficiency, and to effectively monitor the implementation of those decisions. Troop logistics are constantly being improved.

The Border Troops are highly important, particularly as a result of the exacerbation of the international situation. They are outfitted with weapons, combat and special equipment which provide a reliable basis on which personnel of the Border Troops can successfully carry out their missions of protecting the sacred borders of the Soviet homeland and thwarting attempts by the enemy to get onto our state territory with impunity.

When speaking of the equipment and weapons with which the Soviet people supply their fightingmen, it is essential to explain that the most perfect equipment and weapons do not by themselves guarantee a reliable defense for the socialist homeland. The main strength of our army and navy continue to be people with a perfect mastery of the awesome equipment and powerful weapons, and modern methods and techniques of combat operations, people tempered ideologically and psychologically, and physically strong. The fact that the Soviet Armed Forces now have enormous technical military capabilities does not at all diminish the role of the human factor. Collective types of weapons--and they have the crucial role in military affairs today--demand skilled, imaginative and coordinated actions by the people, a high level of organization, constant self-discipline and irreproachable performance on the part of each.

Scientific and technical progress in military affairs is increasing even more the demands made of army and navy personnel. Making the military work increasingly intellectual, it at the same time makes increasing demands of the knowledge of the fightingmen, of their ability to effectively use the equipment and weapons, and requires that each of them take a creative approach to the fulfillment of his duties.

The demands made of the moral-political preparation of the personnel have increased immeasurably in the contemporary situation. A modern war, should the imperialists unleash one, will place the individual under particularly strong pressure. Enormous exertion of physical and spiritual effort, unprecedented energy and extremely great courage, stamina and discipline will be required of him in order to achieve victory in a battle.

Great moral-political qualities and fighting efficiency are shaped in the fightingmen by the entire structure of life in our army and navy. In the field, at sea, in the air, in exercises and in the daily military work, the soldiers and sergeants, NCOs and petty officers, directed by the commanders and political workers and with the active participation of party and Komsomol organizations, polish up their combat skill and enhance their preparedness and their ability to defeat a powerful, insidious and technically equipped enemy. And it is very important that not a single minute of the time allocated for combat and political training be wasted, that it be used with maximum effectiveness. This depends in great part upon how actively every fightingman struggles to steadily enhance his military skill, to become tempered ideologically and to mold all of the qualities essential for victory in a battle.

Fightingmen of the army and navy understand this and are therefore moving ahead from one stage to another in their combat and political training. Here are some examples.

The motorized rifle battalion commanded by Captain A. Baranov distinguished itself in the "Kavkaz-85" exercise. In order to frustrate the opponent's plan, the motorized riflemen had to execute a long march in difficult mountain terrain within a short period of time. With a severe shortage of time and undergoing great physical stress, the battalion's fightingmen reached the "enemy's" flank and rear area without detection, rapidly attacked him and forced him to go over to a defense. This success resulted from the fact that the battalion gives constant attention to march training, the operation of vehicles at high speeds during the day and at night, the negotiation of obstacles on roads by the mechanics-and-drivers, and to operating with tactical competence in mountains.

...The ship commanded by Captain 3rd Rank S. Gurov was performing a mission at sea. Somewhere nearby was the "enemy." Senior Seamen V. Zakharov, radar operator, soon detected him. On command, the turret artillery guns were turned in unison toward the "enemy." "Ready! Salvo fire!" The reddish dots of shells swept toward the target. A hit! Young seamen were taking part in that "battle" for the first time, but they performed confidently at their stations. A great deal of credit goes to the veteran specialists: Petty Officers 2d Class S. Dvortsov and A. Maksimenko, Petty officer 1st Class A. Nikolayev and Senior Seamen A. Samoychev. They generously shared their expertise with less experienced comrades and taught them how to make effective use of every minute to improve their combat skills.

The first results of the socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 27th CPSU Congress are being summed up in the army and navy, as they are throughout our nation. "At Night According to Daytime Norms," "Not a Single Laggard Alongside," "In the Field, Performed in the Front Line Manner," "Take a Hero as an Example" and "Destroy Targets with the First Missile, the First Round, the First Shell"--all of these patriotic initiatives are the dominant theme underlying the competition among Soviet fightingmen. At this point it would be beneficial to mention what sort of indicators personnel of the unit, the ship or subunit, or the students in the political training group have achieved as they conclude the training year and how they are fulfilling their socialist commitments in honor of the party congress.

3. The Tasks of the Personnel With Respect to Providing a Fitting Reception for the 27th CPSU Congress, Enhancing Vigilance and Combat Readiness

Our party and government have always attached particular importance to ensuring the vigilance and constant combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. Especially important in the contemporary situation is Lenin's statement that we must preserve military preparedness in any case, that we must retain our Red Army in a state of complete combat readiness and increase its combat capability, no matter what ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 42 p 130).

The essence of the combat readiness of the Armed Forces in the contemporary situation should be explained to the students. Today, combat readiness is

the main indicator of the qualitative condition of the troops and naval forces, of the formations, units, ships and subunits. In it are accumulated the results of the multifaceted work of the personnel and their ability to fulfill their main purpose, that of reliably defending the socialist gains and the peaceful labor of the Soviet people, and safeguarding the security of our nation and its allies.

The military skill of the personnel, their ability to fight in the modern manner and achieve victory over a technically equipped, insidious and trained enemy, forms the basis of combat readiness. Such components of combat readiness as the field, naval and air training, the great ideological strength of the fightingmen and their indestructible morale are of enduring importance.

The army and navy have long had a saying: "If you can handle the weapons, you can conquer the enemy." This axiom has taken on particular importance in the contemporary situation. The large-scale adoption of new weapons and equipment in the forces has made their good practical mastery the foremost task. The modern weapons and the especially complex guided weapons systems demand systematic drills and solid skills in handling them in a situation approaching actual combat as nearly as possible. Many years of experience have convincingly demonstrated that combat with an enemy equipped with a large quantity of various weapons has a powerful affect upon the servicemen. This kind of combat creates psychological tension in them, and this significantly influences the effectiveness with which the weapons are employed. The development of good morale, fighting efficiency and psychological stability in the fightingman is therefore an important factor for enhancing his fighting efficiency. This includes instilling in him faith in the strength and reliability of his weapons, determined drilling and a knowledge of the specific features of the enemy's weapons....

The most serious of attention is now being devoted to the physical training. Only a physically strong fightingman can carry the maximum load in combat. He does not lose his restraint or self-control and can get the greatest results from the weapons and equipment in any situation. After all, modern combat operations involve great exertion of spiritual and physical strength and a drastic increase in vigorous actions by the individual. In tactical exercises, for example, the daily outlays of energy by the servicemen ordinarily increase 1.5- to 2-fold. Naturally, all else being equal, the fightingman in good physical condition operates more successfully and retains his good fighting efficiency longer.

The improvement of combat readiness is inconceivable without firm military discipline. While discipline has always been an indispensable condition for the good combat readiness of the troops, it has become even more important in the contemporary situation, become a more multifaceted and extensive concept. Its social-political, moral-ethical and technical military significance has increased. The role of the personal and collective sense of responsibility of the fightingmen who jointly service and operate the complex combat equipment and weapons has grown. Such qualities of the soldier, seamen, NCO and petty officer as strict self-discipline, precise performance, combat activeness and initiative have become particularly

important today. All of these things are a part of the concept of aware Soviet military discipline. It is the duty of every serviceman to strengthen it and to maintain strict order, because we know that those who are accustomed to assessing their every step by means of the regulations develop organization and tirelessly enhance their combat skill and training, which guarantees that they are prepared to begin fighting immediately.

It should be pointed out that the level of military skill and combat readiness is tested in a particular way during the standing of alert and guard duty, which constitute the performance of a combat mission in peacetime. The troops and naval forces are also kept in a constant state of combat readiness by the performance of alert watch duty and internal detail duty.

Combat readiness is closely linked to the vigilance of the fightingmen. Strictly speaking, vigilance on the part of the serviceman is primarily a readiness to come to the homeland's defense and successfully carry out its assignment at any hour, any minute. Furthermore, while this previously applied mainly only to personnel in the so-called first echelon, today, because of the new weapons, it is the mission of every fightingman, no matter where he is.

The fightingman is required to be vigilant and to strictly safeguard military and state secrets. Military security is an extremely important part of state security. It is not permissible to divulge such secrets under any circumstances. Soviet fightingmen have demonstrated that there is nothing which can get a secret out of them. Graphic examples of this are the immortal feats performed by Guards Private Yuriy Smirnov and Seamen Yevgeniy Nikonov, who were taken prisoner in a state of unconsciousness and suffered an excruciating death but did not give away military secrets to the enemy.

The Soviet fightingman needs to be vigilant everywhere and always. Some soldiers and seamen do not believe that they have secret information. This is an erroneous opinion. Every fightingman knows the location of his unit, the commanders, the weapons and equipment which he is studying, and a great deal more, which unauthorized people should not know. It is said with good reason that military secrets are not kept just in safes and must be safeguarded like a cherished treasure.

Exceptionally great vigilance is required of Soviet fightingmen serving outside our homeland and of sailors on foreign cruises. Soldiers, seamen, NCOs and petty officers need to be extremely cautious when outside the unit or off the ship. Vigilance helps the fightingman to rapidly recognize and nip in the bud any enemy stratagem and to perform their service in an exemplary manner.

In conclusion, the instructors should discuss the tasks facing the subunit fightingman in the new training year, during the first training period, as well as during the immediate preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress. "For the party congress--a fitting reception!"--this slogan is a daily guide to action for every fightingman for strengthening the homeland's defensive might and reliably safeguarding the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

Immediately prior to the class it is beneficial to arrange for the students to see the documentary film chronicles "A Ballad of My Contemporary" and "Always Be on the Alert," and the popular science films "Unity (Party and People)" and "A Land Which I Love."

It is recommended that the following topics be covered in the discussion:

- 1) Why is imperialism the source of military danger?; 2) How is the aggressive nature of imperialism manifested in the contemporary situation?;
- 3) What are the main directions of the work performed by the Communist Party and the Soviet State to improve the Armed Forces of the USSR?; 4) What does it mean to be a vigilant fightingman and to tirelessly enhance the combat readiness of the subunit and unit (or ship) and of the Armed Forces as a whole?; 5) How are you striving for a fitting reception for the 27th CPSU Congress?

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ARMED FORCES

EDITORIAL: REVIEW OF MAJOR THEMES OF NEW TRAINING YEAR

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Dec 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Great Momentum towards the New Training Year"]

[Text] Soldiers and Sailors have entered a new training year. Its beginning was marked by great political and practical enthusiasm on the part of Soviet soldiers evoked by preparations for the Twenty-Seventh Party Congress, discussion of the program documents released for their examination, the decisions of the October 1985 Plenum of the CPSU CC, and the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The strivings of the defenders of the homeland to still more persistently raise vigilance and military preparedness, and to strengthen discipline and order are clearly shown in the commitments of the leaders of the all-army socialist competition. Projecting great gains in preparing for combat, they have called on all soldiers to take part actively in competition in the new training year under the slogan of: "Let us fulfill the decisions of the Twenty-Seventh CPSU Congress, and faithfully defend the gains of socialism!" This initiative, which was approved by the USSR Ministry of Defense, and the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy, is warmly supported in the ranks and on the ships.

In the new training year, the entire life of the soldiers and sailors will take place under the badge of the Twenty-Seventh CPSU Congress. To facilitate a worthy meeting of the Congress, and deep study and practical implementation of its decisions--this is the most important task of the military councils, commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations. They are called to persistently strive that each soldier know well the goals and tasks of the party's program, the meaning of its domestic and foreign policy, and deeply understand the objective necessity for further strengthening the military potential of the armed forces. It is completely understandable that in the Marxist-Leninist training of officers and generals, in the political studies of ensigns and sailors, at

the political classes of soldiers and sergeants, and in all party-political work these questions have a leading role. The experience of the past training year confirms: achievements in military and political training are greater when organization is a subject of primary concern to commanders, political organs and staffs, and where the principle of studying that which is indispensable in war is consistently brought to life. Unfortunately, this is not done everywhere. At times, proper concern is still not manifested about conducting exercises in conditions as close as possible to combat, about seeing that studies are inextricably tied with moral-political and psychological training of soldiers, and about fostering in them inner firmness, physical conditioning, and persistence in achieving goals. It is necessary to more actively hold a course aimed at raising the quality, intensiveness, and economy of the training process, and to more decisively fight ostentation, indulgence, conventionality, and formalism. The main slogans of the day which have been set forth by the party--tempo, quality, thrift, orderliness--must become a way of life for each military collective.

Along with the growth in the capabilities of the means of contemporary armed struggle, the demands placed on personnel training have also increased. The task is to master the art of maneuver, to take active and decisive actions in various types of battle, day and night, in complex geographic, climatic, and meteorological conditions, and to study how to successfully oppose a strong, technically equipped enemy who employs electronic warfare, as well as both conventional and nuclear weapons. Mastery of new types of technology and weapons, the ability to forestall the enemy at the opening volley, to defeat him at maximum distance from the first shot, launching of rockets, or flight of airplanes to their target, and the ability to move quickly from one type of military action to another, all have great significance. It is necessary to conduct training and exercises more often on unfamiliar terrain, outside of the range, and to create conditions for the trainees which will spur them to develop creativity, initiative, and to work out habits of practically solving questions of military security, including the conduct of sabotage, air defense, and defense against weapons of mass destruction.

The struggle for quality and effectiveness in the training process is inextricably connected with raising the ideological maturity, professional preparation and methodological skill of commanders. Special attention should be given to inculcating in them independence, persistence in bringing to life the decisions they have taken, and a feeling of responsibility for matters entrusted to them. It is important that all officers are armed with the knowledge of leading documents on the organization of military and political training, the foundations of military

pedagogy and psychology, Soviet legislation, and progressive methods of political-educational work. Front-line experience, and the methods of great scholars, should be more widely used in their training. We should decisively rid ourselves of the practice, still extant in some places, of becoming carried away by theory in commander training, ignoring its active forms. It is necessary to instruct officers practically in the direction of soldiers and sailors in a complex tactical situation, the organization and conduct of the military economy, and the achievement of great final results with the expenditure of the least time and material. The professional competence of officers, their exemplariness in all things, their closeness to people, and their ability to mobilize the ranks in the achievement of complex combat training tasks must be at the center of attention in personnel recommendations.

A great emphasis on combat training is senseless without strong discipline in all the ranks of the army and navy organism. It is necessary to more strictly question officials regarding neglect in support of official regulations, breaking away of troops from planned exercises, and violations of schedule or the daily routine, and to maintain great discipline of the ranks in daily army and navy life, as well as an atmosphere of irreconcilability to the slightest deviations from the demands of service regulations. The practice of conducting military rituals should be more widely used towards these ends. Active and purposeful work on bringing to life the recommendations of the All-Army Conference on Improving the Life of the Troops must be taken to further strengthen the system of regulations.

The growth in qualitative indices of martial labor, the intensiveness and economy of the training process, and the state of the troops' daily life will to a large extent depend on the effectiveness of competition. It is essential to see that its forms and methods more fully answer the demands of the time, to more exactly evaluate the results of competition, to raise its educational role, and to more widely practice competition between specialists, as well as competition for the better sub-unit, unit, and ship.

The rhythm of training, and the action of competition decisively determine the level of party-political work, its direction towards concrete tasks of military and political preparation, and the personal exemplariness of Communists and Komsomol members. While deeply explaining the complexity of the current international situation, it is important to convey to each serviceman an understanding of his personal responsibility for the security of the motherland, and for model fulfillment of his duty as a soldier. In addition, commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations must proceed from the viewpoint that the quality and effect of all forms of

ideological-political, moral, and military and legal education is conditioned first of all by its connection with life, and the unity of word and deed.

There is no doubt that the new training year, the year of the Twenty-Seventh CPSU Congress, will be marked by selfless military labor by the defenders of the homeland, and will become an important era in increasing the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces.

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ARMED FORCES

EXERCISE NOTICE: TRANSCAUCASUS MD--The forces of the Transcaucasus military district plan to conduct an exercise during the period from 17 to 21 february 1986 in the area of Tetri-Tskaro, Kirovabad, Tsiteli-Tskaro, and Sagaredzho. The exercise is to be conducted with the goal of working out the interaction of the various services. Approximately 25,000 men from units and subunits of the Ground Forces and the Air Forces are to be involved. [Text] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 86 p 5].

OBITUARY: MAJ GEN MAKAROV--The Headquarters and the Political Department of the K.E. Voroshilov Military Academy of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, and friends and comrades announce with deep regret the sudden death in the fulfillment of his service obligations of a member since 1953 of the CPCC, Senior Instructor and Major General Nikolay Arsent'evich Makarov, and express their condolences to relatives and friends of the deceased. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Dec 85 p 4] 13017

OBITUARY NOTICE: COLONEL G.F. KOTOV--The Command, the party committee of the main directorate of the USSR Armed Forces' General Staff, friends and comrades announce with deep regret the untimely death of a member of the CPSU since 1962, Colonel KOTOV, Georgiy Fedorovich and express condolences to the family and friends of the deceased. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jan 86 p 6]

CSO: 1801/95

IMPROVEMENT OF WHEELED COMBAT VEHICLES

Moscow TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE in Russian No 10, 1985 pp 8-9

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel V. Chukov: "The Improvement Of Combat Wheeled Vehicles"]

[Text] Successes in developing full-drive, multi-axle vehicles has served as the basis for developing new combat wheeled vehicles. According to foreign experts, in a number of cases combat wheeled vehicles (BKM) can be preferable to similar tracked vehicles.

Experts have indicated that some advantages of wheeled vehicles are their fuel rates and also their high speeds and good dynamic characteristics. The time between engine repairs in wheeled vehicles is 3-5 times greater than for tracked vehicles and the time between undercarriage repairs is 6-7 times greater. Wheeled vehicles have a lower operational noise level and do not destroy hard road surfaces. Western specialists also consider their better radio-electronic environment as an advantage.

Less repair equipment as well as maintenance and supply support is required, thus allowing these support areas to be reduced.

The entirety of BKM elements found in foreign army inventories and those again being developed are very diverse and include armored personnel carriers, infantry fighting vehicles, reconnaissance, command, logistics and maintenance vehicles, repair and evacuation vehicles, medical vehicles and others.

The weight of these vehicles varies from five to 20 tons depending on the type and level of protection and armament.

As a rule, the armored hull of a modern BKM is carried either in an open or enclosed carrier. Designers try to optimize the arrangement of command and control, combat and drive train elements as well as the troop section for a given type of BKM and a given hull weight. The size and form of the hull for

an amphibious vehicle must also provide the appropriate water displacement and minimum water resistance.

One of the most important indicators for BKM configuration is the ratio of the weight for the various systems and mechanisms to the total weight of the vehicle and this relationship varies with the BKM type. For example, the relative weight of the hull in a BTR [armored personnel carrier] is 30-33 percent and in a BRM [armored reconnaissance vehicle] it is 35-40 percent; the relative weight of the armament in a BTR is 3-5 percent and in a BRM it is 8-11 percent; the drive train and transmission average 19-22 percent and the undercarriage is 17-20 percent. The weight of special equipment varies the most: from 3-4 percent for a BTR to 11-15 percent for a modern BRM.

BKM transmissions are divided into bridge and side (H-shaped) transmissions according to how their primary assemblies are arranged and how the drive is linked to the drive wheels.

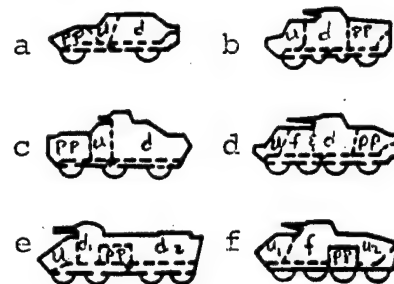
The bridge design system for transmissions allows the BKM to be standardized along with conventional automobiles. But this solution makes forces the rejection of several tactical-technical requirements (for example, variable clearance and maximum vehicle height reduction).

The use of the side-transmission design has made it possible to develop armored wheeled vehicles with the highest TTKh [taktiko-tekhnicheskije kharakteristiki - combat characteristics]. This group of vehicles is characterized by the fact that torque is transferred from the power drive to the wheels using an "H" shape with a central differential. These designs reduce the probability of the vehicle slipping on turns and reduce the height of the hull (thanks to the fact that the driver-mechanic's position is placed between transmission elements and not above them). In addition, this type of power transmission allows the vehicle to slew about in place, thus increasing the BKM's maneuverability.

At the same time designers note that the mechanical transmission developed along the side-design has a number of shortcomings. First, the large number of parts increases the vehicle's weight. Second, because in many cases there are no differential constraints between the wheels on the left and right sides and also between the wheels on each side, the load on the transmission increases sharply under certain conditions. This leads to additional wear and tear on its mechanisms and tires and also leads to increased fuel usage. Electrical transmissions with motor wheels do not have these shortcomings.

The development of a vehicle using an articulated design is one of the variations which, they feel, allows some BKM characteristics to be enhanced. A

BKM Configurations



Schematic a is the traditional BKM design with a 4 X 4 configuration and the power plant (PP) in front. B, d and e show supplemental wheels equipped with pneumatic lifters for increased BKM cross-country mobility. The assault compartment (d) and the fighting compartment (f) can be either in the aft section of the hull (as in a BTR) or in the center of the hull (as in a BRM and BRDM) depending on the BKM type. Configuration c depicts a vehicle with an enlarged assault compartment and forward power plant. F shows two steering compartments (U and U)

1 2

prototype of such a vehicle was developed in the US. The two two-axle sections have autonomous power units. The hulls are connected by a hinge which allows the forward section to displace from $+35^{\circ}$ to -27° on the vertical plane and also to list $\pm 3^{\circ}$ on the transverse. The vehicle can also curve around its vertical axis within the range of $\pm 31.5^{\circ}$. The autonomous power units and transmissions allow the vehicle to move even when one of the sections is damaged. Crew placement in the rear section reduces the probability of people being injured if the vehicle hits a mine.

As a rule, armored personnel carriers are equipped with 12.7 caliber and 7.62 mm machine guns and at times with small caliber automatic cannons. Weapons are positioned either on the turret or on the ring mount over the commander's hatch or the assault compartment.

Combat reconnaissance vehicles are equipped with more powerful weapons: 25-30 mm automatic cannons to combat lightly armored targets and personnel. Missiles are provided to destroy tanks.

During testing developers concluded that it was possible to install a more powerful gun, up to 105-mm, on combat wheeled vehicles with weights up to 15-20 tons. They are convinced that this type of gun in combination with a fire control system that has an electronic ballistic computer, weapon stabilizer, a sight with a stabilized field of vision, laser rangefinder and also television observation equipment would allow BKM's to successfully combat tanks.

The French wheeled ERC-90S "Sage" BRM which is armed with a smooth-bore 90-mm cannon can be used as an example. The barrel length has been extended to 22 calibers which allows it to reach a high muzzle velocities. A muzzle brake was used in the weapons design and as a result recoil strength and size have been reduced. An armor-piercing sub-caliber round with a separating sabot (with a muzzle velocity of 1300 meters/second) gives armor penetrability of 120 mm at a 60° angle at 2000 meters. The hollow-charge ammunition for this cannon has a muzzle velocity of 950 meters/second and can penetrate 320 mm of homogeneous steel armor when perpendicular or 120 mm at an angle of 65° .

The long-range rapid-fire automatic APE 75-mm cannon is being considered as a possible variation for the primary weapon. The round has a muzzle velocity of up to 2000 meters per second and a 2 rounds per second rate of fire. The weapon can also be used to engage aerial targets.

There have been reports of the development of a wheeled tank that weighs up to 30-32 tons. Wide (on the order of 650 mm), bullet-proof tires able to operate with a wheel load of about five tons are used in its design. When approved by foreign experts, this tank, with its smaller over-all dimensions, weight and cost, will be able to have the same firepower as a standard tank.

In trying to increase cross-country performance and average speed, developers are primarily trying to increase the power-to-weight ration. Characteristically, modern BKM mainly have diesel or multi-fuel engines that provide a power-to-weight ratio of 20-30 horsepower per ton and which run economically enough. Carburetor engines are used much less often. As a rule, the engine is combined with the transmission into a single assembly, thus

increasing the density of the power unit variation and at the same time reducing its overall dimensions. Moreover, this makes replacing the power unit easier under field conditions and also simplifies its servicing.

A BKM's mobility is determined for the most part by its suspension. As a rule, mechanical suspensions are used on modern BKM: dependent suspensions with elastic elements consisting of spiral coils with telescopic, hydraulic shock absorbers; independent suspensions with hydraulic shock absorbers and torsion bars on the rear wheels and spiral springs on the front and also combined suspensions. Hydro-pneumatic systems are considered to have the best future. For example, a hydro-pneumatic suspension has been developed for a foreign BRM which makes it possible to change the vehicle's clearance from 200 to 600 mm.

Foreign military experts are also focusing a lot of attention on improving tires to make them as survivable as possible on the battlefield. Tires with spongy rubber filling were not developed because it turns out that they limit the vehicle's speed. Thick-walled, self-sealing tires and tires with sectional cells also did not prove out. Tires with an adjustable pressure are considered the most acceptable today. Tires with an internal elastic filling and numerous cells filled with a gas at a pressure of from 2.8 to 4.3 kilograms per square centimeter are being used in a number of armored vehicles.

A tire design which guarantees the vehicle's motion for a short time even when there is no tire pressure has been developed. One of the variations is the so-called "null" pressure tire which has side walls that are thicker than usual.

Since "null" pressure tires are relatively harder than pneumatic tires, various intermediate variations are being sought. For example, there are reports that resilient tires with radial cords which are a combination of pneumatic and "null" pressure tires are being developed. An elastic deformation delimiter which also has a large number of cells that are constantly filled with a gas are placed inside pneumatic tires. In contrast to "null" pressure tires, this deformation delimiter only partially fills the tire, and thanks to this, the filler has no effect on the tire's operation under normal conditions, but goes into action when there is damage.

There is yet another design, a narrow pneumatic tire that is positioned between two disks made of a light alloy. When the tire is punctured, these disks support the side walls. The rigid fins, (they are still called wings) work on the inner side of the disks to improve the tires traction and increase the wheels' pulling action when afloat.

Auxiliary tubeless tires (for off-road travel) are being used on some vehicles. They are attached to the rim of the wheel (with an external diameter of 1225 mm) from the inside using special clamps. These tires are able to go up to 50 kilometers at up to 25 kilometers per hour after being damaged. Another way to increase BKM cross-country performance in poor ground is by attaching various shaped chains to the wheel

A design of a pneumatic tire that provides BKM cross-country mobility in soft soil and snow has been developed and patented. The tire has a special cover with side projections.

Another design solution aimed at increasing BKM cross-country mobility and maneuverability is the duplication of steering control. For example, on one reconnaissance vehicle (an 8 X 8 wheel design) the four front, four rear or all eight wheels can be controlled.

The vehicle can move forward and back at the same speed. Steering control is passed from one driver-mechanic to another via a special device which precludes the vehicle being controlled from two positions at the same time.

As a rule, light BKM with weights from five to 10 tons have armor that provides protection against 7.62-mm rounds (8-10 mm of steel armor with sufficiently angled armor plating on the hull and turret). Some vehicles have armor that can protect against 12.7 caliber rounds and also against fragments from artillery rounds up to 155-mm. Heavy BKM have protection against 14.5-mm rounds at any range and against 20-25-mm rounds at ranges of 1000 meters or more.

Aluminum alloy armor is widely used. It is claimed that with an armor strength equal to steel, it provides a hull with enough strength and this is important for BKM that are equipped with 90-105-mm cannons. Spaced armor (there is a space between the steel plating into which a filler is placed) is also used.

Vehicles are equipped with PPO [fire fighting equipment], PAZ [atomic defenses] and anti-chemical systems and have equipment for setting up smoke screens. Designers are trying to reduce the noise level from the engine, transmission mechanisms and undercarriage to reduce the factors that give the vehicle away. A number of reconnaissance vehicles are equipped with infra-red, laser and radar warning devices.

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CSO: 8144/0034

SPECIAL TROOPS

CONSTRUCTION TROOPS: PLAN FULFILLED

[Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian published on 10 January 1986 on page 2 a 150-word article by Colonel F. Semyanovskiy of the Moscow Military District, which states that the military construction unit headed by Lt Col V. Solomatin had, as of 1 October 1985, fulfilled its plan for the 11th 5-Year Plan. Productivity of labor grew by 25 percent for the 5-year period. The cost-price of repair work decreased. Specifically the unit economized in materials, saving 6,200 square meters of rolled roofing insulation, 66 tons of bitumen, and around 100 tons of cement.

CSO: 1801/95

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

U.S. INFLUENCE SEEN IN PAKISTAN'S ACTIONS AGAINST PATHANS

[Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 15 December 1985 carries on page 5 an article that states that the bloodshed allegedly being perpetrated upon the Pathan tribes in the Khyber Pass area was purposely planned by the Government of Pakistan, for which the independence of these tribes was a major irritant. According to the article, the fact that the action began shortly before the arrival in Pakistan of the U.S. Army chief of staff, General John Wickham, was no coincidence, because the talks between Wickham and the Pakistani Government concerned not only \$6.5 billion worth of U.S. military aid to the Pakistani Government, but also a stepping up of aggression against the Afghan Government. The actions of the Pakistani Government were interpreted by the article as a demonstration of that government's readiness to "commit any crime in the interests of the Asian ambitions of Washington."

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CSO: 1801/85

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

ADM STALBO VIEWS ROLE OF U.S. AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

PM171529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Second Edition p 5

[Vice Admiral K. Stalbo article: "The 'Long Stock' of Aggressive Policy: Strategic Functions of U.S. Aircraft Carriers"]

[Text] "Press reports on events in the planet's 'hot' spots often say that U.S. warships headed by some aircraft carrier or other are being sent to the region concerned. Now the United States has sent aircraft carriers to Libyan shores. I would like to know more detail about the role assigned to these combat ships in Washington's present-day military-political strategy," P. Sukharev from Sverdlovsk says in a letter to the editorial office. The same request is found in a number of other readers' letters.

U.S. military doctrine divides nuclear weapons into strategic proper and general purpose. This classification is based on the nature of the targets hit by the relevant types of weapons and their range. The so-called U.S. strategic triad consists of land-based ballistic missiles, strategic aircraft, and missile-carrying submarines.

All other types of nuclear weapons, including the nuclear missiles and bombs with which carrier-borne aircraft are equipped, are classified by the Pentagon as "general purpose" forces. Yet the aircraft carriers, together with their equipment, can also rightly be assigned to the category of strategic arms.

The U.S. Navy now has 14 aircraft carriers. Of these, four are nuclear powered. These very large warships, which have great potential for sowing death and destruction, form the nucleus of the American 2d, 6th, and 7th fleets, which are constantly off the coasts of the Eurasian continent, as well as of the mobile groupings known as "Rapid Deployment Forces" which are maintained in combat readiness and are intended for the implementation of actions arising from the policy of state terrorism, even in regions very remote from the United States. At present the world is once again seeing the gendarme functions of the U.S. Naval fleet from the example of events around Libya.

In order to enable ship formations to remain for a long time in various parts of the planet, the United States has created bases and strong points on foreign states' territory--basically an entire "empire of bases." Thus,

for instance, in the Mediterranean the American Navy has bases on the territory of Spain, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Israel, and Egypt. In the Western Pacific, U.S. military bases are located in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. In the eastern Atlantic, they are in Norway, Iceland, Britain, the FRG, and Denmark. Arsenals of nuclear weapons have been created at many of these bases.

As for the American aircraft carriers themselves, they carry around 1,500 units of nuclear ammunition and are intended for the resolution of such strategic tasks as inflicting nuclear strikes on targets on land and combating enemy submarines at the same time as providing cover for their own missile-carrying submarines.

Aircraft carriers are also assigned the main place in the resolution of tasks of "strategic mobility." Here they are the main force in providing cover for ocean communications, especially those linking U.S. territory with the most powerful foreign grouping of American ground forces--that in Western Europe.

As even the American press admits, aircraft carriers embody to the highest degree the "big stick" with which the United States has waged almost all local wars since 1945.

U.S. aircraft carriers and carrier formations were active in American imperialism's aggressive wars against the Korean people and the countries of Indochina. These ships, accompanied by other warships, are invariably sent by Washington to wherever a threat arises, in its opinion, to U.S. "vital interests." And it is well known that the United States has declared practically the entire planet to be its sphere of "vital interests"! Naval groupings headed by aircraft carriers form a kind of "fire brigade" sailing the world oceans from the Nicaraguan coast to the Persian Gulf, from the Japanese islands to Australia, displaying readiness to support any regime which expresses the intention of following in the wake of Washington's policy, and even to install such a regime by force. That is the policy of the "new globalism" in action.

In speaking of the danger which the U.S. aircraft carriers pose to the cause of peace, it is necessary to bear in mind not only the number of these ships themselves and of the aircraft and nuclear charges which they carry, but also the possibility of the use by carrier-borne assault aircraft of the new Tomahawk and Harpoon cruise missiles, which have considerably increased the depth of strike. It should also be taken into account that aircraft carriers are capable of carrying out strikes from the most diverse salients, changing the front of attack by approximately 1,000 km in the space of 24 hours.

/6662

CSO: 1801/103

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

XINHUA CITED ON NEW PRC DEFENSE ACADEMY--According to the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY a National Defense Academy has been established here with the approval of the PRC State Council and the PRC Central Military Commission. Zhang Zhen, former deputy chief of the Chinese Army General Staff, has been appointed head of the academy, and Li Desheng, former commander of Shenyang Greater Military District, its political commissar. The academy's tasks include training higher command personnel. It will also conduct studies in the spheres of military strategy and army modernization. Its first intake of students is planned for summer 1986. XINHUA also reports that there are now more than 100 military academies and colleges in China, training command cadres for various levels. [Our Information-TASS report: "Academy Established"] [Text]
[Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 85 Second Edition p 3 PM] /6662

CSO: 1801/103

AFGHANISTAN

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DESCRIBES GUERRILLA TRAINING

PM161138 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 85 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Major General F. Grebenshchikov: "The Bandits and Their Masters. Who Is Waging War Against the Afghan People"]

[Excerpt] The United States is the main organizer and coordinator of the undeclared war against the DRA. It is the United States that trains bandit formations on Pakistani territory and supplies them with weapons. Furthermore, the size of American support is growing year by year. In 1981 Washington appropriated 100 million dollars for supplying and training Dushmans. According to the most modest estimates, this year official U.S. aid to Afghan counterrevolutionaries alone has already reached 250 million dollars. The figure planned for next year is 600 million.

Over 100 military camps and strongholds have been set up in Pakistan, where gangs of Dushmans are trained under the leadership of American, Chinese, and Pakistani instructors and subsequently sent into DRA territory. For example, Amir (Dzhan), a captured native of Kabul Province, testified that the "instructors" on the terrorist training courses from which he "graduated" in the small town of Parachinar, not far from Peshawar (Pakistan), were four Americans, five Saudis, and three Chinese. "We were trained to use firearms," he said, "but basic attention was focused on acts of sabotage: blowing up bridges and setting fire to buildings."

Every bandit-training center has its own speciality. For example, saboteurs are trained in Chitral, Peshawar Province. Training in shooting at airborne targets is given at (Tutkay). There are also training establishments of a general nature, where everything is taught: shooting, minelaying, ambushing, blowing up bridges, camouflage....

Sultan (Shukur) from the Abdullankhan gang was trained in a camp that was different from all the rest. Every day two American instructors taught him how to use Japanese photographic equipment and a Canon movie camera under combat conditions. When a caravan from Peshawar brought to the gang's lair sets of Soviet uniforms, in addition to weapons and ammunitions, one of the instructors--"Bill"--told Sultan (Shukur): "You'd better polish your lenses, kid. There'll be a lot of work. Don't forget to load the camera, either."

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIET HELICOPTER OPERATIONS IN NANGAHAR PROVINCE DESCRIBED

PM181036 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Dec 85 Second Edition p 3

[Article by correspondent Major A. Oliynik under the rubric "Site of Exploit--Afghanistan": "Rescuing a Friend is the Supreme Honor"]

[Text] "No 980 has been downed by a missile while dropping the landing force. I can see it coming down in the mountains. I will land to rescue the crew and landing force," Captain P. Semenov, commander of the flight, reported to the command center.

"No 484! Act as the situation demands..."

The group of Soviet helicopters with a subunit of Afghan commandos on board, led by Squadron Commander Major V. Gaur, was heading for the high mountain landing area. Up ahead the oval huts of the village of (Samusi) could just be glimpsed. Behind them the steep summits of the Towr Ghar could be seen distinctly.

"Check your weapons, we are approaching the target," the leading helicopter radioed briefly, then descended swiftly into the winding mountain corridor. The other helicopters followed, descending sharply. Maj Gaur knew how intently the crews were now operating and how accurately you need to operate the controls to "squeeze" into the steep and narrow gorge. But the main thing was that at any moment the Dushmans might fire on the helicopters.

Translated into Russian, the Towr Char mountains mean the Black Mountains. This area in the south of Nangarhar Province is considered to be one of the most inaccessible and dangerous areas. Nearby is the border with Pakistan, from which weapons and ammunition are sent by secret caravan routes. It was there that (Mokhammad Asef's) gang, trained in a training center near Peshawar, had established its base. The bandits had made devastating raids on nearby population centers, burned villages, killed peaceful inhabitants and shelled aircraft.

The task facing the Afghan Army units was to clear the Towr Ghar foothills of the Dushmans and to destroy their bases. At the request of the Afghan command, Soviet helicopter pilots were providing help in landing the force.

The helicopters entered the danger zone. They began to abruptly change speed and altitude. Maj Gaur seemed glued to the controls. The navigator, Senior Lieutenant P. Balashov, gripped his machinegun...

"I'm on final approach, I'm about to land the force," Maj Gaur radioed.

That was the squadron commander's last report to the command center. The next instant the flare of a missile being launched flashed out of the hazy valley...

Maj Vladimir Gaur relates:

"We were only a few meters from the ground when a mighty blow shook the helicopter. It began to pitch over. 'If only there's no explosion!' flitted through my mind when the helicopter's descent ended. I moved my right arm and a searing pain in the shoulder pierced my body. Next to me the navigator, Sr Lt Balashov, who also had an injured arm, was hanging upside down in his parachute straps. With a supreme effort I reached him and unfastened the straps. The navigator crawled toward the huge hole made in the fuselage by the attack.

"I managed with difficulty to crawl into the cargo compartment where, apart from several members of the Afghan landing force killed by the explosion, there was nobody any more. Then I heard the voice of Flight Engineer Senior Lieutenant Romanchuk, and saw his blackened face in the doorway. With his help I clambered out from the helicopter's wreckage. And a few minutes later the ammunition exploded.

"We began to climb into the hills and then saw a helicopter descending under fire. I realized from the helicopter's number that it was Pavel Semenov."

...The launching of the missile from the carefully concealed firing position was observed by Flight Commander Capt Semenov alone out of the whole group. He instantly began firing back at the Dushman's position using all the helicopter's weapons.

Capt Semenov knew very well what it means to come down in the mountains in a crippled helicopter. And yet he still believed in the squadron commander's flying luck. He was his friend. When letters from their families back home arrived in Afghanistan, the friends read them together. Few people in the squadron apart from Semenov knew that Maj Gaur was a former fighter pilot and had graduated from the Kachinskoye A.F. Myasnikov Higher Air Force School. One day he was injured. After his recovery, hard though it was to do so, Gaur had to give up flying fighter aircraft. The officer began to fly MI-8 helicopters. Like Semenov, he had been here on Afghan soil for a long time now.

No, Capt Semenov could not allow his combat commander and friend to die. He prepared to draw the enemy fire for the sake of saving Gaur and his companions. The squadron party organization secretary and holder of the Order of the Red Star could not act otherwise. Having received the order to act as

the situation demanded, he immediately pulled out of a sharp turn and, without further ado, put his MI-8 into a swift descent toward the traces of fire...

Capt Pavel Semenov relates:

"This unplanned landing on a 'pocket handkerchief' in the mountains was difficult. But I felt no fear, I was thinking about one thing: Would it be possible to land the helicopter. Scarcely had one wheel touched down on the rock before Navigator Senior Lieutenant Vasilii Demin was running toward the downed helicopter. Flight Engineer Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Bessmertny maintained continuous machinegun fire, pinning the Dushmans down against the rocks.

First, I saw members of the Afghan landing force clambering toward the helicopter, and with them the navigator of the downed helicopter, Pavel Balashov. Hardly had he climbed through the hatch into the hold before he lost consciousness. Then Flight Engineer Romanchuk and Navigator Demin appeared from behind the rocks supporting Maj Gaur. A weight was lifted from my heart--the commander was alive!..

"The helicopter, whose load was almost doubled, took off under mortar and machinegun fire. From the open door and the portholes the members of the Afghan landing force and the crew fired at the Dushmans. The takeoff was covered by Mi-24's which had arrived under the command of political worker officer Yuriy Vladykin."

...In half an hour the rescued crew and members of the Afghan landing force were in the embraces of their combat friends. And then Maj Gaur and Sr Lt Balashov, who had been wounded, were taken under the care of military doctors.

This is how Gennadiy Kolodiy, an experienced pilot and Communist, assesses this episode:

"I pay tribute to the courage of all helicopter pilots. But what Capt Semenov did was a real combat feat, like those that the frontline pilots performed during the Great Patriotic war..."

Indeed, this immutable soldier's law has been tested by time: "Help your comrade even at the cost of your own life." The sons and grandsons of the frontline soldiers here on Afghan soil are augmenting with honor the glorious combat traditions of the Soviet aces. And they are displaying courage, skill, and mutual help of the highest standard. This is the glory of the Soviet pilots and their great international feat!

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTAN ARMY ATTACKS KHYBER PASS TRIBES OPPOSED TO GUERRILLAS

LD171248 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Aleksandr Korolev Commentary]

[Text] During a visit to Bangladesh, the Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq, has said that only small army units are engaged in the operation to put out [as heard] resistance from the Pashtun tribes in the region of the Khyber Pass. Meanwhile, our observer Aleksandr Korolev says, in their importance and likely consequences, the current events in that region are too serious to be assessed as a limited punitive operation. As you probably remember, big armored units and thousands of Pakistani troops entered the zone of the free tribes in the vicinity of the Pakistani-Afghan border last week. They surrounded Shinawari and Afridi villages and demolished many homes. By that action the Pakistani authorities have grossly violated the long-standing traditions and historical right of the Pashtun tribes to a certain autonomy. The action has aggravated sharply the political situation in the country. In a statement in Peshawar, one of the leaders of the movement for unity between the tribes population Pakistan, (Sayid Yusuf Hyusayn), demanded that the Pakistani troops leave the region of the Khyber pass at once. Otherwise, (Sayid Yusuf Husayn) warned, the Shinawari and Afridi tribes attacked by the government troops would begin guerrilla warfare.

What is the aim of the unprecedented action in the free tribe zone? Of course, it has nothing to do with, say, defending the interests of national unity. On the contrary, the military action which drew angry protests from the native Pakistani population, is aimed at making strangers--the dushman bands--feel perfectly at home in Pakistan. The point is that the Pakistani authorities have launched the repressions against the Pashtun tribes for their refusal to let armed bands, sent to Afghanistan, pass through their territory. Although that was a display of the traditional independence of the Pashtun people, the Pakistani authorities responded by using force against them.

The explosive situation which has arisen in that part of Pakistan is the result of general tensions in the region. As the U.S. magazine TIME says, Pakistan has been involved in the largest war the United States is carrying out, even if it is doing this with somebody else's hands. If the border regions had been turned into military bases for subversive actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the actual rulers there are CIA agents and dushman-band

leaders. The interests of the local tribes are ignored and their rights are infringed upon. The events confirm the statements made by a prominent political figure, (Ghaus Baksh Bizenjo), as far back as 1978. He warned that involvement in subversive actions against the neighboring Muslim country would immediately have an adverse effect on political stability in Pakistan.

In short, another source of tension has emerged, this time in Pakistan itself. It has been created by the policy of the military authorities of Pakistan because, in the name of continuing the undeclared war against Afghanistan, they have turned arms against their own people.

/8918

CSO: 1812/72

AFGHANISTAN

TASS REPORTS ACTIVITIES OF AFGHAN GUERRILLAS

LD231854 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] The Afghan media report on successful combat operations by the armed forces against the bands of imperialist mercenaries sent in from abroad. According to the newspaper HAQEAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, large groups of bandits totalling about 1,000 people were destroyed in Qandahar and Helmand Provinces. Boris Savodyan, our correspondent in Afghanistan reports:

Forty stores of weapons, subversive literature, and property confiscated from the inhabitants have been discovered and destroyed in the mountains. There were also training manuals for Dushmans containing instructions on how to mine roads and bridges, blow up power lines, and terrorize the peaceful inhabitants. According to reports from BAKHTAR news agency, successful operations were also carried out in Fariab Province recently. The resistance of about 10 armed bands, totalling about 585 people, was stopped there. Taking advantage of the amnesty announced by the DRA Revolutionary Council, former members of counter-revolutionary units have decided to end their struggle against the people's power. During the last few years, the amnesty was taken up by more than 21,000 Afghans who were drawn into the armed bands either by force or by deceit. They declared their readiness to participate in peaceful work, as well as in defense of their country from external aggression.

Afghan television recently showed a program about a group of terrorists, who organized an explosion near the Roza-e Sharif mosque in Mazar-e Sharif town, in the center of Balkh Province last summer. As is known, 64 people were killed or seriously injured. One of the terrorists, named (Ocheli Muhammad Yaqub), said that for a long time he had been carrying out the orders of the counterrevolutionary organization, the Islamic Society of Afghanistan, with headquarters in the Pakistani town of Peshawar. From there came orders to distribute antigovernment leaflets, to collect weapons in caches, to call on the people to murder the supporters of people's power.

The bandits are supplied in Pakistan, not only with weapons and explosives but also with poisonous substances. This was described at a press conference in Kabul recently by two terrorists, (Lal Muhammed) and (Shadi Khan), captured by DRA security forces. Both of them underwent special training in Pakistan. Before their mission to Afghanistan, foreign instructors supplied them with poisonous tablets and special powder which causes serious sickness or death

when added to food or drinking water. (Lal Muhammad) and (Shadi Khan) were instructed to drop poisonous tablets into barrels with drinking water in populated places, particularly close to the mosque where believers perform ritual absolutions before prayers. These are just two episodes, characterizing the nature of the terrorists, hypocritically called freedom fighters in Washington, who are waging war against their own people.

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

TASS CITES PRAVDA ON PATHAN LIFE ON PAKISTAN BORDER

LD271312 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0125 GMT 27 Dec 85

["PRAVDA correspondent's dispatch from the Durand Line"--TASS headline]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 27 Dec (TASS)--Today PRAVDA carries a dispatch by its Kabul correspondent V. Bayuov from the so-called "free tribe zone" inhabited by Pathan tribes.

The "free tribe zone," writes the PRAVDA correspondent, is a narrow strip of mountain territory, which enjoys special autonomy, on both sides of the Afghan-Pakistani border running along the so-called "Durand line."

After the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan the forces of imperialism in league with the Pakistani military regime and against the wishes of the majority of the Pathan tribes turned the border regions of Pakistan into the base camp from which an undeclared war against the Afghan people is being fought. When the Pathan tribes living on the Durand line on Pakistani territory refused to allow passage through their territory to the counterrevolutionary bands and the caravans with weapons, this infuriated Islamabad, writes the PRAVDA correspondent.

Regular army units--tens of thousands of soldiers and officers, hundreds of tanks and artillery--were sent to the Khyber pass region. The homes of mountain people are being destroyed with bombs and shells, burying the inhabitants under the ruins. In the areas of Kadzhvari, Tarih, and Git and other places dozens of homes have already been destroyed. After blocking the road the troops do not allow medical help to be brought to the mountain people or food. Adult Pathans have taken up arms and gone into the mountains. They are rebuffing the punitive expedition and rejecting all ultimatums to stop resistance. Women, children, and old people are hiding among the crags, in mountain caves, and crevasses, many of them have found refuge with their fellow tribesmen living on the Afghan side.

The PRAVDA correspondent tells the stories of refugees about the brutality and atrocities of the Pakistani soldiers. "I listened to these tragic tales," he writes in conclusion, "while in the mountains behind Tor Khan artillery shooting continued to rumble. Punitive actions against the Pathans continue, actions which cannot but be described as open genocide."

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TELEVISION ON PLIGHT OF PATHANS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD022217 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 2 Jan 86

[Report by correspondent M. Leshchinskiy, video captioned: "Afghanistan" from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] These are people from the Pathan Shinwari tribe. The destiny of the tribe has developed in such a way that part of the tribe lives near the Khyber Pass and part in Afghanistan. This is precisely where these unfortunate women, children, and old men have come to their fellow tribesmen in order to find shelter, food, and protection. [Video shows shots of tribespeople]

There beyond the mountains lies their grief and their dwellings that have been destroyed by the Pakistan military, as well as their fathers, brothers, husbands, and sons who are fighting for their rights, and have been since times immemorial. [Video shows view of mountains in distance and then correspondent Leshchinskiy speaking to camera against background of huts and children]

What then evoked the anger of the generals and Ziaul-haq himself? Just one thing: Namely, the protests of the free Pathan tribes against the transformation of their traditional areas into arsenals of weaponry intended for killing their fellow-tribesmen in Afghanistan and into centers for training Dushman gangs. [Video shows tribesman being greeted by other tribesmen]

The name of this person is (Jamir). He is a sheikh of the Shinwari tribe. After unsuccessful attempts to bribe and intimidate him, the Pakistanis destroyed his home and set a price of 1 million Pakistani rupees on the sheikh's head. Now Sheikh (Jamir) has come to his brothers in Afghanistan to tell the truth about the atrocities that the Pakistan military are committing on soil which has since time immemorial belonged to the Shinwari tribe. [Video shows interview with (Jamir) in outdoor setting] [Begin (Jamir) video recording in vernacular with Russian translation superimposed]

We want the world public to know that our land has been invaded by an almost 60,000 strong Pakistani Army. At the present time the Khyber area has been totally blockaded. I came to Afghanistan, to the common home of all Pathans,

in order to appeal to the United Nations and the UN secretary general to send their representative to the Khyber, to see the truth with their own eyes.

The Pakistani Army has destroyed 11 villages of the Shinwari tribe and 8 villages of the Afridi tribe. Great material and moral damage has been inflicted. The United Nations and all the people of the world should hear about the violation of human rights in Pakistan. Hiding behind the mask of sacred Islam, the Pakistan military are in actual fact an enemy of Islam and the aim is to deprive us of freedom, since we have been expelling the mercenaries and traitors from our land. We shall devote every effort to protect the land of the Pathans and to give the enemy a rebuff that he will remember forever. [End video recording]

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

TASS CITES BAKHTAR ON FIGHTING IN KHYBER PASS AREA

LD101350 Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 9, TASS--Pathan tribes put up stiff resistance to units of the Pakistani Army and its hirelings. According to reports reaching here, Afridi and Shinwar tribes managed to re-gain control over a number of settlements as a result of active operations. Specifically, they re-established full control over an important road linking Torkha-Shagi with Ali-Masjed.

Speaking in an interview to the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, Asadullah Akhmadzai Wazir, a representative of the Wazir tribe who arrived in Kabul from the southern Wazirstan region, said that his tribe supported the just struggle waged by Afridi and Shinwar. He said that more than 6,000 people in the service of Pakistani authorities as 'malishes' (border militia) were ready to come to the aid of their brothers from Khyber and moment if an appeal for help came. Akhmadzai Wazir stressed that the population of southern Wazirstan was indignant at the policy of the Islamabad regime and the subversive activities of U.S. military advisers.

The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY stresses that Americans are involved to an increasing extent in Islamabad's punitive operations. They act as organizers of reprisals against the freedom loving Pashtun tribes. Their unsavory role can be seen from a recent visit of one of the high-ranking officers of the Pentagon to Islamabad where he held a "conference" with Pakistani generals and ringleaders of anti-Afghan groupings. In his turn the Pakistani foreign minister, BAKHTAR says further, recently brought from Washington unequivocal recommendations of the U.S. Government to put down the fighting of the tribes in the Khyber region as soon as possible. A conference which worked out a set of measures to "pacify" the fighting tribes was held in the Pakistani capital and was attended by American emissaries.

These measures include the eviction of civilians from the zone designed for use as a staging area for aggressive attacks on Afghanistan, the construction of military installations on the territory inhabited by the tribes, the bringing of individual tribal chiefs, and efforts to set the tribes against each other.

In the area of Bajawar Islamabad plans to take military action similar to that carried out in Khyber. Army units stationed nearby and anti-Afghan groups were already alerted for that purpose. The ringleader of the anti-Afghan group Hekmaziar and the governor of the north-western frontier province of Pakistan already held a meeting to coordinate operations of regular troops and counter-revolutionaries.

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CSO: 1812/72

AFGHANISTAN

USSR: SHINWAR TRIBAL MEMBER ON ALLEGED PAKISTANI REPRESSION

LD121418 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Interview with Wali Hamid, representative of the Shinwar tribe, by correspondent Boris Savodyan following a tribal jirga in Qala-e Khali, DRA; Hamid speaks in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation--recorded passages in quotation marks]

[Text] Unusual guests may be encountered at present in the eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar. Hounded by the oppression of the Pakistani military, hundreds of representatives of the Pathan tribes--the Shinwar, Afridi, and Mohmand--have come here. They have participated in a tribal jirga held in the town of Qala-e Khali, located in the center of the Shinwar District. Here is what one of the participants in this meeting, Wali Hamid, an elder of the Shinwar tribe, told me:

"What is now happening in Pakistan, in the area inhabited by the free Pathan tribes, is basically naked genocide. Our brothers are dying there under the blows of the Pakistani military. In the district of Landi Kotal, dozens of houses belonging to our fellow tribesmen have been destroyed. If anyone dares to disobey, he is shot. Many leaders and elders of the Shinwar tribe have been thrown into prison, where they are held in inhuman conditions. We frequently appealed to the authorities to end the repressions, but in reply the Ziaul Haq regime began military operations against the Shinwar tribe, not hesitating to use U.S. tanks and armored personnel carriers. When our menfolk took up arms, they were joined by representatives of other tribes.

"We well understand that they want to make us the target of a large-scale adventure, conceived against Afghanistan by U.S. imperialism. With all the means at their disposal they endeavor to sway us to their side, to force us to accept the presence on our soil of Dushman bands, and thus set the Shinwar tribe against our brothers in Afghanistan.

"We know that in Kabul the government, which respects Islam and takes care of the long-term interests of our brothers in Afghanistan, conducts an open dialogue with our brothers. We have declared, and still declare, our solidarity with the Afghan revolution, and resolutely condemn the war of destruction unleashed by the Pakistani military against the Pathan tribes. We demand a speedy end to it."

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CSO: 1801/90

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

RIVAL GUERRILLA GROUPS CLASH--Kabul, December 23, TASS--Armed clashes among rival organisations of Afghan counter-revolutionaries keep on. A clash between gangs from "Jamiat-e-islami" and "Hezbe Islami" in the area of Rabat (Iran) has left more than 200 counter-revolutionaries killed or wounded, BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY has reported. In the area of Shinwar, Pakistan's north-western border province, terrorists from the "Hezbe Islami" organisation blew up a large weapon depot, including modern missiles supplied by the United States. The internecine clashes among counterrevolutionaries have been brought about by their striving to snatch as much of financial and other aid shipped from abroad as possible. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 23 Dec 85 LD] /8918

TRIBAL CLASHES IN KHYBER AREA--Kabul, January 7, TASS--As was reported by the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, armed clashes are continuing in the Khyber area between formations of Afridi and Shinwar tribes and Pakistani Army units. Four Pakistani soldiers are reported to have been killed in fighting in the area of Jamrud. Fighting men of the Afridi tribe took prisoner five Afghani counter-revolutionary gangs from the Yunus Khales grouping. Two bandit leaders were killed in the attack. In the area of Mirali (Waziristan) unknown persons captured five high-placed Pakistani police officers. Their whereabouts are not so far known despite all efforts of the authorities. The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY also reports that attacks on Afghan counter-revolutionaries and Pakistani Army servicemen are continuing in Peshawar itself. [TASS placename spellings throughout] [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0932 GMT 7 Jan 86 LD] /8918

AFGHAN TRIBE LEADER CONDEMNS REBELS--Kabul, January 9, TASS--Wali Khan Koke Khel, chief of the Pathan tribe of Afridi, speaking at a Jirgah of the tribe in the areas of Taude-Mena, has called for an intensification of the armed struggle against the bands of Afghan counter-revolutionaries. The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY has reported that he sent out messages to tribal chiefs, calling on them not to yield to the stratagems of the Pakistani authorities and to strengthen still more the unity of the Pathan tribes in the face of overt aggression by the Pakistani Army and by the counter-revolutionary rabble. The Jirgah of the tribe of Afridi has adopted a resolution demanding that the Afghan counter-revolutionaries immediately get out of Khyber District. The Afghan counter-revolutionaries, the news agency reports, have had to abandon many areas where they stationed themselves and to concentrate in Kajagari and Naserbag camps. Pakistani authorities have urgently brought big military units to the area of

the camps for the protection of the bandits. Thirty-five leaders of Afghan counter-revolutionary bands have voluntarily surrendered to the armed formations of Shinwari tribe. One hundred and ninety Pakistani pashtun servicemen with full armament have taken the side of the embattled servicemen with full armament have taken the side of the embattled tribes, BAKHTAR reports. [Text]
[Moscow TASS in English 2213 GMT 9 Jan 86 LD] /8918

SURRENDER OF GUERRILLAS REPORTED--Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 December 1985 carries on page 3 a report that nine rebel bands totaling 585 persons had surrendered to Afghan government security forces in the province of Faryab, turning over at the same time a large quantity of weapons. The former rebels claimed that their decision to surrender had been influenced by the law of the Afghan government granting amnesty to rebels that have voluntarily laid down their arms. [Editorial Report]

GUERRILLA CASUALTIES--With the active support of the population, subunits of the Afghan Armed Forces are continuing to deliver blows to the counterrevolutionary bands sent from abroad. In Herat Province a band of cut-throats that terrorized the local population has been routed. Ninety bandits were killed, and 20 were injured. In the course of operations in Nangarharha Province 78 more bandits were killed and a large quantity of weapons and ammunition manufactured abroad was seized--recoilless guns, antitank and antipersonnel mines. According to a BAKHTAR news agency report, an armed group numbering 48 people went over to the side of the revolutionary authorities in Parvan Province. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 31 Dec 85] /9599

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